Inclusion of Rivers in the Concurrent List

1662. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to take out rivers from the State List and include it in the Concurrent List; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) As per Entry 56 of List-I under the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution, regulation and development of inter-State rivers and river valleys to the extent to which such regulation and development under the control of the Union is declared by Parliament by law to be expedient in the public interest is in the Union List. However, water, that is to say, water supplies, irrigation and canals, drainage and embankments, water storage and water power subject to the provisions of Entry 56 of List-I is with the State Governments as per Entry 17—State List. There is no proposal with the Government to change any of these provisions in the Constitution.

(b) Does not arise.

Reclamation of Lands Swallowed by Rivers

1663. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the plight of people in parts of Uttar Pradesh who have been rendered homeless and landless due to the change in the course of Yamuna rivers;

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken in this regard;

(c) whether other areas with similar problem have been identified; and

(d) whether Government expect a pan-Indian effort towards reclamation of land swallowed by rivers which have changed their course?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) As per information furnished by the Government of Uttar Pradesh, they have taken up basin wise approach to contain the course of